

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**KOBAYASHI, DJOU, AND HEAD COALITION URGING CITY
TO TERMINATE IN-TOWN BRT PLANS**

Councilmembers Ann Kobayashi (Manoa, Palolo Valley, Makiki) and Charles Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu) today released a petition, signed by a bipartisan coalition of Democrats and Republicans representing urban Honolulu at the state and city level, urging Mayor Harris and the Honolulu City Council to take necessary steps to terminate plans to move forward with the currently planned In-Town BRT.

“The City is attempting to create demand for a service that is expensive and not very convenient. We’re just asking for a workable and cost-efficient solution,” said Councilmember Kobayashi. Councilmember Djou added, “I support the regional BRT, but I do have doubts about the Initial Operating Segment. I believe current plans will hurt, not improve, traffic problems.

The petition, also signed by Councilmember Rod Tam (Downtown, Punchbowl, Makiki), Senators Carol Fukunaga (Makiki, Pawa’a), Gordon Trimble (Waikiki, Ala Moana, Downtown), and Representatives Scott Saiki (McCully, Pawa’a), Galen Fox (Waikiki, Ala Moana, Kaka’ako), Kenneth Hiraki (Iwilei, Downtown, Makiki), identifies design problems and scarce public resources as reasons to instead direct initial mass transit efforts to the residents of West and Central Oahu.

“I am equally concerned about widespread community concerns and resistance to current plans. State legislators are here in support of any efforts by the City to redirect resources to address transportation issues on Oahu,” added Senator Fukunaga.

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